

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 120470
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 SY-05 AID-05 USIA-15 PA-02 SS-15
NSC-05 /074 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT: RPMYERS:NWH
APPROVED BY M/CT: AMB. HECK
ARA/AND - DCOX (PHONE)
S/PRS - PPERENYI (PHONE)
-----251422Z 038713 /43
R 251350Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS STATE 120470

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, SOCI, CO

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE: CURTIS CASE

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED MAY 23 FOR
DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TO USE ON IF-ASKED BASIS:

"SUBJECT: RELEASE OF KIDNAPPED BEATRICE FOODS EXECUTIVE
GUSTAVO CURTIS IN COLOMBIA

QUESTION: HAS THE BEATRICE FOODS EXECUTIVE GUSTAVO CURTIS
BEEN RELEASED?

ANSWER: MR. CURTIS WAS RELEASED UNHARMED IN BOGOTA ON
MAY 19. THE US GOVERNMENT JOINS THE CURTIS
FAMILY AND THE BEATRICE FOODS COMPANY IN WELCOM-
ING HIS SAFE RELEASE AFTER HIS EIGHT MONTH
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QUESTION: CAN YOU TELL US WHO KIDNAPPED MR. CURTIS?

ANSWER: WE DO NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION AT THIS TIME ON
THE IDENTITY OF MR. CURTIS' KIDNAPPERS.

QUESTION: HOW WAS CURTIS' RELEASE SECURED? WAS RANSOM

PAID?

ANSWER: MR. CURTIS' COMPANY HANDLED THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR HIS RELEASE. I WOULD, THEREFORE, REFER ANY QUESTIONS ON SUCH NEGOTIATIONS TO BEATRICE FOODS.

QUESTION: I UNDERSTAND THAT THE NEGOTIATORS WERE ARRESTED BY COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THIS?

ANSWER: WE UNDERSTAND THAT SEVERAL PERSONS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED BY COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES. HOWEVER, NONE OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE AMERICAN.

QUESTION: WHAT ROLE DID THE USG PLAY IN THIS AFFAIR?

ANSWER: THROUGHOUT THE INCIDENT OUR EMBASSY IN BOGOTA KEPT IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH BOTH COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES AND OFFICIALS OF BEATRICE FOODS. IN ADDITION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS KEPT THE CURTIS FAMILY HERE IN THE UNITED STATES INFORMED OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CASE."

2. TO DATE THE MEDIA HAVE ASKED NO QUESTIONS ON CURTIS' CASE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PRESS CONFERENCES, BRIEFING MATERIALS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE120470
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RPMYERS:NWH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770186-1062
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770518/aaaaappn.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f2c1bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN MCT
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2370084
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE: CURTIS CASE
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, SOCI, SOPN, CO, US, BEATRICE FOODS, (CURTIS, GUSTAVO)
To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f2c1bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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